



# ***News Release***

**U.S. ARMY FIELD SUPPORT COMMAND**

***March 31, 2005***



## **CSM of Army Reserve delivers inspired message**

Rock Island, Ill. – Delivering an inspired personal message, the Command Sgt. Major of the Army Reserves impressed many during her visit to Rock Island.

Command Sgt. Maj. Michele S. Jones served as guest speaker for the command's annual Women's History Month luncheon held March 31. This year's theme was "Women, Change, America."

Jones entered the Army in 1982 and has distinguished herself by being the first female to serve as a division command sergeant major and

being selected as the first woman to serve as the command sergeant major of any of the Army's components, Active or Reserve. She is the highest ranking enlisted female in the Army today.

"This is a great month," she said. "I love March. I am truly honored and humbled to speak at these types of events. It is a time to reflect and a time to honor, recognize and celebrate what women have added to our society."

Jones, who is stationed in Washington, D.C., said she couldn't imagine being anything other than a Soldier.

"When my 11-year-old says, 'My mommy's a Solider,' and says it with pride, that lets me know I doing something right. My girls don't need to go out of the home for a role model," she said.

Jones also told the audience of about 100 people her daily inspiration when she wakes up every morning.

"God, because he gave me life; my country, because it's my way of life, and my family, because they are my life," she said. "Serving as a Soldier is the only job in the world to me, that protects all those three things."

After the luncheon, Jones took the time to speak with Soldiers assigned to the command and answer their questions.

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Latisha L. Turner, AFSC Equal Opportunity Advisor, and one of the organizer's of the luncheon, praised Jones for supporting the event.

"I thought the program was a success. The support and attendance was great," she said. "I was very delighted that Command Sgt. Major Jones accepted the invitation to come and speak. To have her here in our presence was a blessing. She has been a pioneer to open many doors for many women in the military. I definitely look forward to having her back in the future."